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### Palos Verdes Fire Burns Over 100-Acre Area

Fire started by an overheated automobile manifold burned over approximately 100 acres in the Palos Verdes Hills two miles south of Miraleste school Sunday night. Eldred A. Reynolds, San Pedro, reported the fire to Desk Sgt. I. L. McCaleb at the Vermont Avenue Sheriff's sub-station, saying he stopped his car off the road because of lack of water and the manifold ignited the brush.

What doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?—Micah 6:8.

### County Budget Cuts Asked by Citizens' Group

Recommendations for county budget reductions by which the Los Angeles county tax rate can again be reduced, were made by Harry H. Baskerville, chairman of the Los Angeles county citizens' budget committee, for the 50 active organizations which form the committee, at the second day of public hearings on the budget, Wednesday morning, July 5, in Los Angeles.

Four specific cuts in the budget which the citizens' budget committee, of which Torrance Chamber of Commerce is a member, recommends are:

1. Reduce land purchases and capital expenditure projects by \$1,196,700;
2. Cut the unappropriated reserve by \$300,000;
3. Eliminate \$37,500 for the county band;
4. Revise estimate of revenue and surplus to reduce tax demand by at least \$200,000.

Pointing out that the \$91,107,474 budget for general county purposes for 1944-45, being considered by the board, includes expenditure proposals which will require a tax levy increase of \$1,700,000 and a tax rate increase of about 7 cents, based on 1943-44 assessed values, the committee said:

"The items listed above can be properly eliminated from the preliminary budget, without interference with the efficiency of county operations, so that the tax rate for 1944-45 need not exceed that of 1943-44."

Complimenting the board on its five successive years of tax rate reduction for Los Angeles county, the committee expressed appreciation of the careful consideration the board of supervisors has given to its recommendations for modifications in the county budget.

### TORRANCE ROTARY DEMOTES AND INSTALLS PRESIDENTS AT ANNUAL DINNER DANCE

This evening, when members of the Torrance Rotary club meet, they will be greeted by a new president in a new hall. City Judge Otto B. Willett will preside as president for the first time, and the meetings hereafter will be held in Evangelical Guild Hall, Arlington at Marcellina, due to the U.S.O. taking over the Woman's clubhouse.

Retiring president Fay L. Parks was "demoted" in the traditional Rotary manner last Thursday evening before a crowd of 150 Rotarians and guests at the Palos Verdes Country Club. H. E. Appenzelar was chairman of the dinner-dance which was acclaimed one of the largest and most enjoyable ever held. Sam Levy was master-of-ceremonies at the banquet.

In reviewing the highly successful Rotary year under the leadership of President Parks, J. W. Post pointed out that the club had grown in membership from 47 to 56—the largest in its history. Attendance record averaged 95.195 and credit for this high rate of attendance was given to Thomas J. Adams, program chairman during the past year, who brought many very interesting speakers and programs.

Highlighting the accomplishments of President Park's year, Post stated the Rotary Club had: Donated \$200 for the purchase of athletic equipment for the 13th Ordnance Depot, purchased Christmas gifts for service men confined in the LAPE hospital at Torrance, furnished towels for the day nursery, had two Army men each week as guests of the club, sponsored the senior Scout troop, supplied special awards for Boy Scout activities, was instrumental in obtaining a \$1,600 appropriation from the City Council for the purchase of recreational equipment for the Youth Commission, arranged to have school playgrounds and gymnasium open evenings for recreation supervised by the Youth Service Committee of the Rotary club, purchased a pool table for the Army hospital, and inaugurated a competitive "Food for Victory" program for which prizes will be awarded to winning club members.

Recognition was also given to Rotarian Hillman R. Lee, who has served as chairman of War Bond drives, and numerous other patriotic campaigns. The Rotary Club is nearing its goal of \$100,000 in the present Fifth War Loan.

In the field of international service, the Torrance Rotary club donated \$25 to San Juan, Argentina, for relief of earthquake victims. Inter-city club meetings were held during the past year with Redondo Beach, Wilmington and San Pedro; and two joint meetings were held with the Torrance Kiwanis club, all of which were arranged by Past President J. Hugh Sherley, Jr.

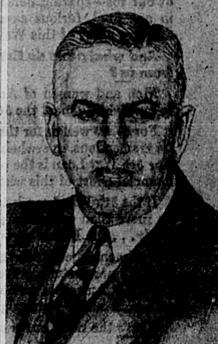
During May less than one-third of the donated books were discarded as "scrap" as compared to a high of 50 percent during the earlier days of the campaign, Librarian Smith declared.

Distribution of the books was made by the command's library depot at the Presidio of San Francisco, Calif., where they were shipped from collection points for processing and "re-conditioning."

Californians may turn in their donations at any main or branch library in the state, Smith said.



OTTO B. WILLETT . . . takes over presidency of Torrance Rotary Club tonight.



FAY L. PARKS . . . retires after full year of Rotary service.

### MOOSE ARE INVITED TO MEET HERE

Torrance has invited the Loyal Order of Moose to hold its district meeting in Torrance on Aug. 3, 4 and 5, using the Civic Auditorium as a meeting place, according to Harry B. Lewis, executive secretary of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

The city is joining the chamber in the invitation. The Moose have a big lodge here, it was pointed out, with many prominent citizens in its organization.

Housing problems would be worked out among the members, it was pointed out.

### Check Rabies Before Going On Vacation

A reminder to vacationists to investigate rabies quarantine restrictions before taking their dogs with them comes today from the County Health Department.

Regulations provide that no dog in a quarantined area may be taken out of that area. Individual dogs under quarantine must be kept in confinement and cannot be taken away.

### Stirling Ends Engineering Course in East

Among those graduating from an intensive course of basic engineering training at recent service school exercises at Great Lakes, Ill., was Robert J. Stirling, 19, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. J. Stirling, 816 Portola ave., Torrance, Calif.

Stirling was selected for his specialized training on the basis of his recruit training aptitude test scores. Graduates from the 20 specialized courses taught at the service school are sent to sea, to shore stations or to advanced schools, for active duty or further training.

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### Thousands of Books Sent to Service Men

The California Library Association during May received for circulation at Ninth Service Command Army libraries more than 30,000 books and magazines from Californians supporting the organization's "Send Your Books to War" campaign.

During the month libraries throughout the state received 25,488 cloth and paper bound books and 4,923 magazines, Mrs. Mary Duncan Carter, president of the organization, informed Xenophon P. Smith, Ninth Service Command librarian at Fort Douglas, Utah, today.

Purpose of the drive, which was inaugurated last March after Army officials at the headquarters of the Ninth Service Command endorsed the campaign, is to assure a continued source of supply of reading material to meet ever-increasing demands of soldiers stationed within the eight western states, en route overseas on troop transports and on duty in foreign countries.

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Californians may turn in their donations at any main or branch library in the state, Smith said.

### Ralph O. Pina Out of Hospital After Wounds

Miss Irene Mills, Torrance High school journalism and English teacher, who is keeping correspondence with many former Torrance boys in the service, states that she has received a letter from S/Sgt. Pedro Pina saying that he had that day (10 June 1944) received a letter from his brother (Pvt. Ralph O. Pina, who had been reported wounded in the Asiatic theater) telling that he was well and out of the hospital.

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